

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 03374 251402Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----251528 043537 /50
R 251310Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2124
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3374

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, EG, US, IS, PFOR
SUBJECT: AMOCO DRILLING ACTIVITY IN SOUTHERN GULF OF SUEZ

REF: (A) TOSEC 020020 STATE 34168, (B) CAIRO 2712, (C) SECTO 2027

1. WE HAVE CHECKED OUT INFORMATION CONTAINED PARA 3 REF A, AND HAVE CONFIRMED THAT RIG 511 DRILLING SITE IS INDEED IN BLOCK 392 AND THAT CRAIG'S ORIGINAL INFORMATION TO US (REF B) WAS INCORRECT. ACCORDING TO AMOCO EXPLORATION MANAGER, ORIGINAL WELL IN THIS AREA WAS DRILLED IN 391 AND HENCE THE STRUCTURE IS USUALLY IDENTIFIED BY THAT BLOCK NUMBER. CURRENT SITE IS MOREOVER ONLY ONE-HALF KILOMETER SOUTH OF WELL DRILLED IN 391 AND HENCE SITS ALMOST ON THE BORDER BETWEEN THE TWO BLOCKS. AS DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE, COORDINATES GIVEN BY AMOCO/EGYPT AND AMOCO/CHICAGO ARE IDENTICAL.

2. DESPITE HIS EARLIER INFORMATION REGARDING LENGTH OF TIME (REF C) WHICH RIG 511 WILL BE ON SITE (30 - 45 DAYS), CRAIG HAS INFORMED US THAT EXPECTED DURATION OF DRILLING IS NOW 60 - 90 DAYS. ASSUME ISRAELIS SHOULD BE INFORMED OF CHANGE IN DURATION OF DRILLING.

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 03374 251402Z

3. COMMENT. REGRET CHANGE OF SIGNALS ON DURATION OF DRILLING. WE DO NOT BELIEVE CRAIG DELIBERATELY MISLED US ON THIS, BUT THAT HE WAS SIMPLY MISINFORMED. RECENT EXPERIENCE INDICATES HE IS JUST NOT TECHNICALLY QUALIFIED TO SPEAK ON MANY OF THE MATTERS WE WERE DISCUSSING WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH HIS DRILLING AND EXPLORATION MANAGERS. NEVERTHELESS, HE FREQUENTLY DOES SO, APPARENTLY NOT REALIZING EFFECT OF MISINFORMATION.

WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO CHECK HIS STATEMENTS ON TECHNICAL MATTERS
WITH EXPERTS WHO SHOULD KNOW THE FACTS, BUT THIS IS OFTEN DIFFICULT
TO DO WHEN PROBLEMS ARISE AT ODD HOURS OF THE DAY OR NIGHT,
GIVEN THE DIFFICULT COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS WITHIN CAIRO AREA
AND BETWEEN CAIRO AND GULF OF SUEZ.
EILTS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFSHORE OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 25-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO03374
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770066-0027
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770210/aaaaaixk.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 41471fbf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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TAGS: ENRG, PFOR, EG, US, IS, AMOCO
To: STATE
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